

Lanesboro Public Utilities
Council Chambers
July 21st, 2014, 12:30 p.m.

Commissioners Present: Gerald Evenson, Chair
Theresa Coleman, Dennis Schuck

Absent: Jim Peterson

Staff Present: Jerod Wagner

Commissioner Evenson called the meeting to order at 12:30 p.m. Commissioner Coleman moved to adopt the agenda with the addition of Energy Star Rebate for wall mounted AC units and street light outages on Ridgeview Lane to be discussed under miscellaneous. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Schuck. Motion carried.

Commissioner Coleman moved to approve the minutes of the June 16th, 2014 meetings. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Schuck. Motion carried.

New Business

A. Davy Engineering-Well Drilling Update

The well drillers are currently at 395 feet with a good alignment test. They are grouting the hole and will continue to drill once the grout cures. They will then advance the drill through the softer material which should make the drilling easier and move more quickly towards the end nearing 950-1100 foot range.

B. Davy Engineering-WTP Bid Opening (August 28th)

Davy Engineering wishes to have a joint PUC/City Council meeting on August 28th to open the sealed bids for phase two of the water project. The advertisement for bids has been published with an end date of August 28th, 2014 at which time the bids will be opened and qualified.

C. USDA Search Grant-WWTP

The USDA has notified the City of Lanesboro that a Search Grant is available for a feasibility and engineering study for a future waste water treatment facility for the City of Lanesboro. The grant is in the amount of \$30,000 and the closing date of the grant is within one week. Administrator Todd advised the PUC that, per their approval, Davy Engineering had made application for the grant and that all paperwork has been submitted to the USDA office for approval. Todd

will advise once further information is available regarding the award for this grant.

Regular Business

A. Payables

Commissioner Coleman moved to pay expenses of the Lanesboro Public Utilities. Motion seconded by Commissioner Schuck. Motion carried.

B. City Electric Meter Adjustments (6 Months: Multiplier should be 40 not 80)

Administrator Todd advised the PUC that the multiplier on the meters for the Community Center had been miscalculated since November of 2013 and that the consumption of electricity had been charged at a higher rate than should have been. Michele Peterson made the adjustments to the bill history and a credit will be applied to the remaining bills for the year to compensate for the overcharge. A Motion was made by Commissioner Coleman to allow Peterson to credit the City's account on the Banyon system for the remainder of the year. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Schuck. Motion carried all in favor.

C. Water Level Gauge on the Root River at Preston (\$3,500)

Commissioner Coleman indicated that the topic was brought up at the City Council meeting by Ken Soiney regarding the placement of a river gauge in Preston to provide accurate, real-time river levels in order to mitigate flash flooding in the City of Lanesboro. Jared Wagner indicated that there is already a river gauge in Preston and also one in Lanesboro. He stated that there is no need to have real-time information because the City Emergency Management personnel can calculate the time and distance the water travels from Preston to provide enough time to implement evacuation procedures, if need be, for residents and campers along the river. No action taken by the Commission on this topic.

D. Future Use of Well-Site #2

Commissioner Coleman indicated that there is interest in utilizing land on which well-site number two sits. She indicated that the Lanesboro Ambulance Department may wish to secure the site for the future placement of a new ambulance shed once the well is sealed and decommissioned. Jared Wagner stated that he had already provided Ambulance Director Lee Peterson with the current up to date information on the site to include surveys so that if they would like to proceed with utilizing the site, they will have all the information to do so. No action taken.

E. Water Saver Faucets at Community Center

Commissioner Coleman indicated that she would like to look into installation of water saver faucets for the bathroom facilities in the Community Center. She indicated that she had cause to suspect that there is a need due to water being left on by people who utilize the facility. She indicated that the City Administrator speak with Andy Drake, Park Director, to look into cost for acquiring and installation of the devices.

F. Software for Peak and Interruptible Billing and Service

Commissioner Coleman stated that the PUC should look into software that could provide access to the public so that they could track their energy usage during peak demand that would enable them to be more in control of the energy consumption during the peak times and thus be able to mitigate their individual usage. Jared Wagner indicated that there may be next level technology coming soon and recommended that the PUC wait to see which will be more user- friendly and cost effective. No action taken by the Commission.

G. Utility Pole Cutoff Fixture at Bethlehem Lutheran Church-David Tacke

David Tacke requested that the PUC consider retrofitting the light pole with a cutoff fixture to direct the light downward towards the ground rather than having ambient light that creates a nuisance for residents of the Church Hill Condominiums. This issue had been addressed by Jared Wagner several months ago in which he painted the circumference of the light with silver paint to redirect the light towards the ground. Wagner suggested speaking with Mr. Tacke regarding whether the paint was working to mitigate the issue and to what direction the light is shining. Wagner stated that he would repaint the light if need be.

H. Water Ordinance 520 Water Regulations

This item is tabled until next meeting.

I. Water Ordinance 540 Rates and Charges

This item is tabled until next meeting.

J. Miscellaneous Items

Administrator Todd addressed the PUC regarding the Energy Star Rebate program. A citizen brought in a rebate form for a wall mounted air conditioner and was wondering what, if any, rebate amount was given for this type of system. The system is wall mounted with no duct work. It is not a window unit but also not a central air unit either. The PUC suggested a rebate in the amount of \$100.00 for this type of unit pending the accuracy of the rebate form turned in by the consumer.

Dan Anderson contacted the City Office about street light outages on Ridgeview Lane. Mr. Anderson stated that there were 6 street lights along Ridgeview Lane that are non-functioning and he requested the PUC replace them. The PUC indicated that in the past, the police officers who patrol the City would relay outages to the City Office so that the utility staff could replace them as needed. Administrator Todd advised the PUC that he would ask Chief Schultz to continue this practice to keep the utility staff informed.

Commissioner Coleman asked Administrator Todd to address the homeowners who will be affected by the blacktop project to select an alternate parking area so they can utilize their vehicles rather than being boxed in. Todd advised that he will speak to Street Superintendent Drake about letting everyone know to park their vehicles in a different area.

Next Meeting: August 18th, 2014 at 12:30 p.m.

Adjourn Regular Meeting:

Motion was made by Commissioner Coleman to adjourn the regular meeting of the PUC. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Schuck. Motion carried all in favor.

Respectfully Submitted:

David Todd
City Administrator